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**The Broads Society**

***Minutes of the Southern Rivers Sub-Committee Meeting  
held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2017  
at Silverline Marine, Brundall***

**Present:** Colin Dye (Chair), Robin Godber, Don Cleaver, Ian Witard, Mike Gross,

**In attendance:** Sarah Vergette (Administrator).

**1 Apologies for Absence**

John Cressy, Ian Northover-Smith, Penny Northover-Smith

**2 Minutes of the last Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2017, having been circulated, were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**3 Declarations of Interest**

There were none

**4 Matters arising**

4.1 Hardley Flood, Wherrymans Way and River Chet

Mr Godber stated that there had been no news regarding this matter. Norfolk County Council were supposed to have set up a meeting in Loddon. The path is going to remain and a lot of trees have been cut and laid to help bind the dredgings together. It was hope that the landowner would allow a diversion of the footpath around the North side of the flood but he did not want this. There is talk of moving the bird hide.

Water levels cause difficulty in using the slipways at the Loddon boatyards. Mr Godber was going to suggest to the yards that when they have problems launching they should ring Adrian Clarke from the BA, he will get fed up in the end. Mr Godber went to say it is expected that the posts will be removed during winter 2017/18 so as not to disrupt navigation.

It was noted that local knowledge regarding these matters is a good thing.

4.2 Pyes Mill - Live Aboards

24 hour mooring signs were put up in the autumn but the BA are working to get the live aboards moved. This is an ongoing issue and Mr Godber will speak to Adrian Clarke from the BA and Colin Gould from South Norfolk Council.

4.3 Landing Stage at Strumpshaw Fen

Mr Witard stated he would chase Tim Strudwick, the Mid Yares Site Manager, and Mr Godber would contact Peter Howe, Broads Charitable Trust, as it looks like funding for this project had been given elsewhere. If the initiative is taken forward the area would be more inviting for visitors.

4.4 New Committee Members

Mr Godber will phone Mr Northover-Smith regarding this matter.

#### 4.5 Beccles and Oulton Broad Yacht Station

Although there was concern that these stations were going over to commercial moorings members could not really comment as it keeps the stations open.

### **5 Matters Arising from the Main Committee held on 14 March 2017**

A copy of the minutes had been circulated. The Eel Sett is a long-running matter near to Hickling. The Society is looking into who the owners are.

Paul Rice would like to change the name of the Society to "Friends of the Broads", there had been discussion on this in the past, it does not mean a change of constitution, Mr Rice feels it would be a good way in get new members interested.

Broadsword has stopped for the summer and Paul Savage is now the Society's spokesperson.

Mr Godber will speak to Paul Rice regarding the Norfolk Show, it had been agreed and entry has been paid for to the Broads Village. Jill Wickens had asked for help on the stands at events. Mr Dye, Mr Gross and Mr Cleaver agreed to help.

Mr Dye had asked for an A4 information sheet which had been placed in his fleet's boat manuals.

Mr Witard asked if a minute could be added to include live aboards with regard to black water discharge. Anglian Water talked at the Broads Forum of testing water quality but when the subject was brought again up they were not interested.

### **6 Regeneration of the Southern Broads**

Mr Godber had put Frances Kirkpatrick in touch with Peter Howe, Broads Charitable Trust, who had told Frances Kirkpatrick how to apply for a grant.

The River Wensum is going ahead slowly but has the full support of the Southern Rivers Committee. It is an asset running through the city.

Unfortunately, there are not many riverside facilities, Mr Witard suggested talking to the riverside pubs to see they would have a small shop. Mr Cleaver remarked that riverside businesses should be encouraged, perhaps publicans should join Broads Tourism.

Mr Godber stated that at Loddon they have been asked for a sign to say there are certain facilities available.

Wider boats are starting to creep onto the Chet, boats that are too wide should be reported to the Broads Authority, this also applies to the Ant.

### **7 Planning**

It was agreed that the new planning system was working well. There is an ongoing issue with the Broads Authority who have stated that Paul Rice's position as Chairman of the

Broads Society, who have commented on a planning application and his position on the BA planning committee is incompatible. Paul Rice is not a member of the Northern Rivers Committee who made a comment regarding a planning application. Paul Savage who is Chair of Northern Rivers has written a very good response to the Broads Authority.

**8. A.O.B**

Mr Gross stated that there was a very good article in Norfolk and Suffolk Boating Association newsletter regarding refuse disposal points. Mr Dye commented that Paul Rice had been looking into this matter and had reached a solution between Horning and Ludham Parish Councils and North Norfolk District Council. The Parish Council rents the land to the District Council who are then obliged to empty the bins.

**9. Date of Next Meeting**

There was some discussion regarding suitable venues for the next meeting and it was agreed that alternate meetings would be held at the Yare Public House in Brundall and a member's house in Loddon. The next meeting would be held at Mr Gross's house in Loddon on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm.

Signed..... (Chairman)

Date .....